

October 26, 1998

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee

FROM: Mayor Neil G. Giuliano, Tempe, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Monday, November 2, 1998 - 12:00 Noon.  
MAG Office, Suite 300 - Mesquite Room  
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

A meeting of the Regional Council Executive Committee is scheduled for the time and place noted above. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proxy policy for MAG meetings, to review the planning for the Regional Council Retreat and to receive a transportation planning/programming update. A luncheon will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact me at 350-8865 or James M. Bourey, MAG Executive Director, at 254-6300.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of August 24, 1998 Meeting Minutes.
3. Proxy Policy for MAG Meetings

2. Review and approve August 24, 1998 meeting minutes.
3. For information, discussion and possible action.

At the October 15, 1998 meeting of the Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee, the Chairman of the Subcommittee requested that the Executive Committee provide guidance on the proxy policy for participating in MAG meetings. The MAG Bylaws allow for Regional Council members to be represented by proxy. The practice at MAG for proxies has been for Regional Council members to be represented by an elected official from their community. At question is whether an elected official from another MAG member agency can serve as a

proxy vote for another member agency. Guidance on this issue is requested from the Executive Committee.

4. Preliminary Planning for the Regional Council Retreat

The next Regional Council Retreat is being planned for Friday, January 8, 1998 at the Buttes Resort in Tempe. The Retreat is an opportunity for Regional Council members to set the direction for MAG for the coming year. In addition, the Retreat provides for members to have a dialogue on regional issues that require more time than what is available at a regular Regional Council meeting. Initial planning for the Retreat has begun and suggestions for topics to be discussed will be shared with the Executive Committee. Guidance on the format and topics to be discussed is requested.

5. Transportation Planning / Programming Update

In July, the Regional Council directed staff to work with the Arizona Department of Transportation in order for this region to receive a more equitable share of transportation funding from ADOT. This has been especially important, since the State of Arizona is receiving an increase of over \$100 million per year in federal funds from the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21).

In August, the State Transportation Board made adjustments to the ADOT Five-Year Highway Construction Program to incorporate some of the additional TEA-21 funding. For the revised ADOT Five-Year Program, approximately 11 percent of the total funding is allocated to projects in the MAG region. This low amount may be increased, due to lump sums, such as pavement preservation funds being placed by ADOT in later years of the Program and not yet assigned to any specific region.

4. For information, discussion and possible action.

5. For information and discussion.

Staff has been working with representatives from ADOT and other regions to determine what funds are remaining for distribution and the statewide criteria for distributing the available funding to the regions.

In addition to the funding, staff has been implementing a fundamental change to the programming process for funding from ADOT. In the past, priorities for some of the ADOT funding for projects such as high occupancy vehicle lanes have been forwarded from MAG to ADOT. The new programming process is for MAG to convene stakeholders throughout the region, with ADOT and the Regional Public Transportation Authority being major stakeholders. Through a cooperative process, the Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee will receive input from the stakeholders and recommend funding guidelines to the Regional Council for all of the ADOT funds expended in this region. A report on these activities will be made to the Executive Committee.